THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2543 *Friday, Feb.* 5, 1830. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Covent Garden Theatre.

LAST night, at this Theatre, we experienced an exquisite musical treat, in the production of that most delightful of Rossini's Operas, *La Gazza Ladra;* the music of which has been arranged and adapted to our stage by Mr. Bishop, in a manner which must add to his already high reputation. In its English dress, it is called *Ninetta; or, the Maid of Palaiseau,* and as the story has been dramatised at every Theatre in London under the title of *The Maid and Magpie,* it would be superfluous to describe the plot, which differs in no material point from those dramas.

The part of *Ninetta,* the heroine, was sustained by that Queen of Song, Miss Paton, (it being her first appearance this season,) in the most admirable manner, both as an actress and a singer; she was in very fine voice, and sang the opening cavatina in the most brilliant style; it was rapturously applauded, and but for a kind feeling would have been encored; the remainder of her music, especially the recitative, was given with a feeling, taste and science which no other English singer could approach. Mr. Morley, who made his début as her father, possesses a voice of great richness and depth, which had a fine effect in the concerted pieces, particularly in the trio in the finale to the first act, which was encored. Mr. G. Penson returned to these boards in the part of the Justice, and acted and sang with much comic humor; he is the best buffo-singer on the English stage. We have not space to do justice to the merits of Wood, the Keeley's, and Harriet Cawse, who all exerted themselves most ably. The piece was received with strong marks of favor, and its announcement for Saturday was hailed with cheers. At the termination of the Opera, there was a loud call for Miss Paton, and, after some minutes, Bartley came forward, and thanked the audience, in the name of Miss Paton; and then went on, in a most bungling manner, to say she was fatigued, and getting ready to go home as quick as she could.—This part of the speech was received with universal laughter. *Robert the Devil* concluded.—The house was full, but not crowded.

Drury Lane Theatre.

AN Opera of Auber's, the composer of *Masaniello,* and adapted to the English stage by Mr. T. Cooke, was produced at this Theatre last night: its French name is La Fiancée; its English one *The National Guard; or, Bride and no Bride.* It is a more literal translation of the French Opera than *The Corporal's Wedding* at Covent Garden, but the story differs so little that it would be superfluous to detail the

plot; we shall, therefore, merely observe, that here the scene is laid in Paris, and that the *denouement* differs, inasmuch as the Corporal really marries the pretty milliner, and the Colonel the *ward* of the Chevalier, who is *visible*, and a great improvement on the *invisible wife* of the Covent Garden piece.

The music is the only part of the performance of which it is necessary to say much; of that we may speak in terms of unqualified praise, for though the composer has not the same scope, as in *Massaniello*, yet there is nothing to detract from his high reputation; the whole Opera is rich in harmony, and though there are perhaps no very striking gems, yet the whole is most pleasing, and will be the more admired the oftener it is heard. The music has been most skilfully adapted by Mr. T. Cooke, and the performers did it ample justice: the main burden rests on Madame Vestris, and we need scarcely observe that both her acting and singing were admirable. Miss Bartolozzi made her first appearance, and sang with taste, but was occasionally too flat; this would have appeared more palpable but for the skill of T. Cooke, her acting has the same awkwardness, and want of grace, which it always had. The Opera was announced for repetition amidst much applause. *Deaf as a Post*, and the Pantomime, followed.—The house was not full until second price.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor, I address you from the Cigar Divan, King-street, Covent Garden, having just popt in to take a cup of Coffee, whiff a true Havannah, kill an hour over one or two of the Morning and Evening Papers—skim the Magazines, and play a game of Chess—delightful place——Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

On Monday, must take another peep at the two grand views, at the Diorama, Regent's Park—was puzzled to decide which was the most beautiful, St. Peter's, or the Village of Thiers—both exquisitely painted—the pictorial illusion complete—the water flowing, smoke ascending, sun shining—quite nature itself.—Had difficulty to persuade a fair lady next me, that we were really viewing merely pictures. Shall put off my journey to Italy, as I'm told, *sub rosa*, we shall have other views from that classic soil; and if as good as St. Peter's will satisfy me.

On my return through Regent Street I step in to see the Wonders of Illusion, displayed by Art, at the Cosmorama.—The Palace of the Grand Seignor, The City of Grand Cairo, Grand Temple of Edfou in Egypt, Cherbourg, Cape St. Vincent, Mont St. Gothard, with the Devil's Bridge and the Falls of the Reuss in motion, and the last terrific Eruption of Mount Vesuvius—truly awful!—with others not less interesting; forming together 14 Views, being the largest ever exhibited in London.

On Tuesday, I drop into the Exhibition of Sculpture, in Old Bond Street, to view the figures, life size, of Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny—work of a self-taught artist, James Thom—delighted beyond measure—fully expected to hear Tam's uproarious laugh—the expression so perfect; *pose* of figures admirable. Whoever has read Burns, (and who has not?) must see them—This very ingenious Exhibition closes in the course of a few weeks.

On Friday, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.

I daily, between 1 and 4, qualify Mrs. Pry's discordant notes with some harmony divine, and may be found at *The Apollonicon*, 101, St. Martin's Lane.—Market and Fishermen's Chorus, from the Opera of Masaniello, enchanting! but I intrude—beg pardon. Your's, PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, the Tragedy of

Venice Preserved.

Scenery painted by Messrs. GRIEVE, T. and W. GRIEVE.

Duke of Venice, Mr BAKER,
Priuli, Mr EGERTON, Bedamer, Mr DIDDEAR,
Jaffier, Mr WARDE,
Renault, Mr EVANS, Spinosa, Mr IRWIN,
Pierre, Mr C. KEMBLE
Elliot, Mr HORREBOW, Mezzana, Mr SUTTON,
Captain of the Guard, Mr MEARS,
Theodore, Mr J. COOPER, Durand, Mr GRANT.
Belvidera, Miss FANNY KEMBLE.

New Scenery.

St. Mark's, the Ducal Palace, &c. taken from the Grand Square.....
(W. Grieve)
The Rialto, and Canal Grande, by Moonlight.....(T. Grieve)
Piazza of the Senate House...(Grieve)
A Street in Venice.....(W. Grieve)

After which, the new Petite Comedy, called A

Husband's Mistake.

Or, the Corporal's Wedding.

Baron Saldorf, (Corporal of Militia) Mr BARTLEY,
Count Frederick Lowenstein, Mr ABBOTT,
William, Mr IRWIN, Shwartz, Mr TURNOUR,
Fritz, Mr KEELEY.
Henrietta.....Miss ELLEN TREE,
Madame Gigot, Mrs GIBBS,
Blonde, Miss GOODWIN, Louisa, Mrs BROWN,
Mina, Miss LAWRENCE,
Adelá, Miss PHILLIPS, Frill, Miss REED.

To-morrow, (2nd time) a new Grand Opera, entitled Ninetta; or, the Maid of Palaiseau.

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Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, the Drama of

THE BRIGAND.

Prince Bianchi, Mr BROWNE, Albert, Mr H. WALLACK,
Theodore, Mr J. VINING, Alessandro Massaroni, Mr WALLACK,
Nicolo, Mr WEBSTER, Rubaldo, Mr BEDFORD,
Ottavia, Miss FAUCIT, Maria Grazie, Mrs BARRYMORE.

After which, the Farce of

My Wife! What Wife?

Captain Hector Tempest, (of the Royal Navy) Mr W. FARREN,
Blunt, Mr W. BENNETT, Staunch, Mr BROWNE,
Captain Hector Tempest, Mr JONES, Pym, Mr HARLEY,
Lady Longpurse....Mrs C. JONES, Louisa... Mrs NEWCOMBE,
Nurse, Mrs WEBSTER, Milliner, Miss GOULD.

To conclude with (35th time) a new Grand Comic Pantomime, called

Jack in the Box.

Flickerflame. the Goblin, Miss LANE, Glimmer, Mr SHERIFF,
Jack in the Box. Mr RICHARDSON, Blueblaze, Mr S. JONES,
Peep-Ho, Guardian of the Adamant Box, & Pantaloon, Mr BARNES.
High-ho, a Knight on a love-errand, & Harlequin, Mr HOWELL,
Rum-go, his 'Squire and Follower, & Clown, Mr J. S. GRIMALDI,
Luciana, Princess of the Hidden Island, & Columbine, Miss RYAL,
Ho-fum, the Giant Genius, Mr Altesse, Hi-fum, Madame Treslong,
Fum-she, the Giant's only Child, Mr WIELAND,
Hon. Mr Trifletime, with a Song..... Miss POOL,
Stoo-Pan, the Giant's Head Cook, Mr CHIKINI,
Mushapug, the Monkey, the Phænomenon, Mvn. VON KLESHNIG,
Doctor Syntax, Mr Eaton, Master Griskin, Mr Wieland,
Siamese Youths, with an united Pas Deux, Mess. Wieland & Chikini,

New Grand Scenery.

Scene 1 The Enchanted Grove and Goblin Abode (Stanfield) With Fairy Vision of the Hidden Island—2 Exterior of Ho-Fum's Palace (Andrews)—3 The Giant's Dining Parlour (Marinari)—4 Ascent to the Burning Mount, with Beacon Light (Stanfield)—5 The Crater, by Moonlight (Stanfield)—6 Splendid City of the Mists in the Hidden Islands (Stanfield)—7 Lime Kilns near Gravesend (Andrews)—8 New Post Office at 8 A. M, (Marinari) 9 The West End at 9 A. M. (Marinari)—10 A Little Way out of Town—(Andrews)—11 Veluti in Speculum (Andrews) With a Pas de Deux by Mr Howell and Miss Ryal—Les Ombres, Mr Chikini and Miss Macdonald—12 Cheesemonger's Shop and Wine Vaults (Adams)—13 Mount Edgecombe—(Stanfield)—14 Gloucester Coffee House—Snowy Night (Andrews)

Stanfield's Grand Local Diorama,

Displaying—Windsor—Town and Castle of Windsor—The River near Bro-cas Meadow, Sunset, with Eaton, by Moonlight—Windsor Great Park—The Castle—Plantations near the Royal Lodge—Virginia Waters—The Royal Pavilion—The Upper Lake—The Dry Arch—To conclude with a grand Display of the Falls of the Virginia Waters, in which 39 tons of Water will be introduced.

To-morrow, (2nd time) The National Guard.